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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/822,838	04/02/2001	Hyun-doo Shin	Q59546	8476

7590

12/06/2005

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WASHINGTON, DC 20037-3213

EXAMINER

LE, BRIAN Q

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2621

DATE MAILED: 12/06/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/822,838

Applicant(s)

SHIN ET AL.

Examiner

Brian Q. Le

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 October 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments, see "Remarks", filed 10/27/2005, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1, 3-5, and 9-11 under 103(a) have been fully considered and are persuasive.

Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Watanabe et al. U.S. Patent No. 3,688,266.

2. Objection of the specification under 35 U.S.C. 132 is withdrawn.

3. The rejection of claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. 112 is withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1, 3-5 and 9-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Nakagawa U.S. Patent No. 5,291,282 and Katsuyama U.S. Patent No. 6,771,813, further in view of Watanabe et al. U.S. Patent No. 3,688,266.

Regarding to claim 1, Nakagawa teaches a method of describing pattern repetitiveness of an image (FIG. 6) comprising the steps of:

(b) decomposing the projected image down own level (divide the image into blocks) (column 7, lines 1-5);

(c) increasing a threshold value until a pattern quantizing value is retained (column 11, lines 59-68 and column 30, lines 59-68), and denoising the decomposed data (amplification and noise removal) (column 33, lines 1-10); and

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(d) describing pattern repetitiveness of the image using the pattern quantizing value of the denoised data and the threshold value used for denoising (column 33, lines 1-15).

Nakagawa does not explicitly teaches the concept of projecting an image on a predetermined axis having a predetermined direction and does not teach the increasing a threshold value if a pattern quantizing value is retained. Katsuyama further teaches a pattern image processing (column 3, lines 35-38) wherein projecting an image on a predetermined axis (x-axis and y-axis) having a predetermined direction (FIG. 13 a, FIG. 17 and column 5, lines 40). Modifying Nakagawa's method of describing pattern repetitiveness of an image according to Katsuyama would able to apply the axis and direction to further describe the pattern/similarity of the image. This would improve processing and therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to modify Nakagawa according to Katsuyama. Watanabe also teaches a pattern recognition process comprises a step of increasing a threshold value (increase voltage threshold value) if a pattern quantizing value is retained (when the contrast value is raise/high) (column 1, lines 45-67). Thus, also modifying Nakagawa's method of describing pattern repetitiveness of an image according to Watanabe would able to operate threshold at different level to further distinguish pattern (whether between letter or blank spaces) (column 1, lines 47-50). This would improve processing and therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to modify Nakagawa according to Katsuyama and Watanabe.

Regarding to claim 3, please refer back to claim 1 for the teachings. In addition, Nakagawa teaches the method comprises the steps of calculating the pattern quantizing value of the image (column 11, lines 59-67); calculating the pattern quantizing value of the denoised data (column 12, lines 7-28) and discriminating whether a current pattern quantizing value is identical

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(the process of determine whether the quantization width fall within a range) to a previous pattern quantizing value (column 8, lines 25-67).

Regarding claim 4, please refer back to claim 1 for the teachings and explanations.

For claims 5 and 9-11, please refer back to claim 1 for further explanation.

6. Claims 2 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over combination of Nakagawa U.S. Patent No. 5,291,282, Katsuyama U.S. Patent No. 6,771,813, Watanabe et al. U.S. Patent No. 3,688,266as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Acharya U.S. Patent No. 6,574,374.

Regarding claim 2, as discussed in claim 1, Nakagawa teaches the concept of decomposition. However, Nakagawa does not disclose the concept of decomposition is based on a discrete wavelet transform. Acharya teaches the system removing noises/artifacts (abstract) wherein the decomposition is based on a discrete wavelet transform (column 4, lines 1-10) to further remove the artifacts from the image. Modifying Nakagawa's method of describing pattern repetitiveness according to Nakagawa would able to further remove the noise and artifacts from the images. This would improve processing and therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to modify Nakagawa according to Acharya.

For claim 6, please refer back to claim 2 for the explanation.

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CONCLUSION

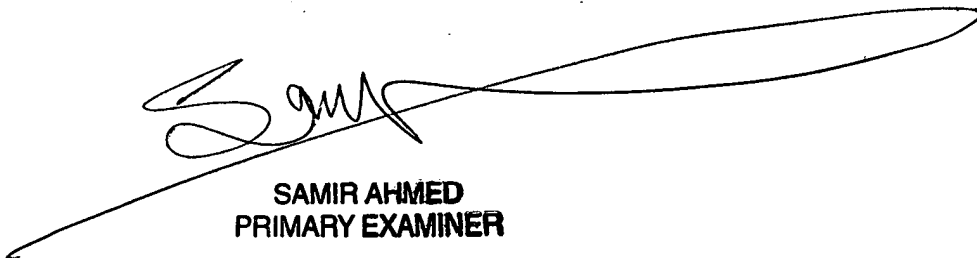
7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian Q. Le whose telephone number is 571-272-7424. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 A.M - 5:30 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Mancuso can be reached on 571-272-7695. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

BL

November 28, 2005



**SAMIR AHMED
PRIMARY EXAMINER**